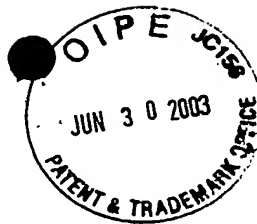




32692
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



1734
Patent #7
Case No.: 57347US002
7/7/19/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: ERICKSON, LEIF O.
Application No.: 10/028659 Group Art Unit: 1734
Filed: December 21, 2001 Examiner: Mark A. Osele
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR APPLYING A SPLICING TAPE TO A ROLL
OF SHEET MATERIAL

RECEIVED
JUL 07 2003
TC 1700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:	
June 27, 2003 Date	<i>Colleen M. Wagner</i> Signed by: Colleen M. Wagner

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449 citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Under 37 CFR § 1.704(d), I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of the Search Report from a foreign counterpart application is enclosed.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

10028659
07/21/2003 TLOVELAC 00000000 13323
01 FC:1806 180.00 DA

Respectfully submitted,

June 27, 2003

Date

By: Melissa E. Buss
Melissa E. Buss, Reg. No.: 47,465
Telephone No.: (651) 733-0649

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833